

8319514

Unit States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 24, 1983

Executive Registry

83-3264

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~(With ~~SECRET~~ Attachment)

Senior Interagency Group No. 3

STAT

TO : NSC - Mr. Robert Kimmitt
CIA -
Commerce - Mrs. Helen Robbins
FCC - Mr. Kalmann Schaefer
NASA -
NSA -
OSTP - Dr. George Keyworth
USIA - Ms. Teresa Collins
USTR - Mr. Dennis Whitfield

STAT

SUBJECT: SIG Meeting Summary of Conclusions

Attached is the Summary of Conclusions for the SIG Meeting on International Communications and Information Policy held on May 26, 1983.

Barbara McKinley
for Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

1. Summary of Conclusions
2. List of Participants

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~(With ~~SECRET~~ Attachment)DCI
EXEC
REG



Washington, D.C. 20520

SECRET

June 23, 1983

Senior Interagency Group No. 3

PARTICIPANTS: See List Attached

DATE AND TIME: May 26, 1983, at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Deputy Secretary's Conference Room, Room 7219,
Department of StateSUBJECT: SIG Meeting on International Communications and
Information Policy, May 26SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

Under Secretary Schneider chaired a meeting of the Senior Interagency Group on International Communications and Information Policy for the purpose of reviewing preparations underway for the Direct Broadcast Satellite Conference and the High Frequency World Administrative Radio Conference.

Ambassador Diana Lady Dougan summarized the status of inter-agency work being conducted in preparation for these conferences. She noted that she had organized a meeting of the Western 11, on the occasion of the ITU Administrative Council meeting, for the purpose of identifying areas of mutual interest and concern.

Ambassador Washburn reported on the just concluded round of bilateral discussions with the Canadians on the Direct Broadcast Satellite Conference. He noted that, while the Canadians were disappointed because we did not accept their plan (which they believed contained significant compromise positions), it was encouraging that, for the first time, the Canadians did accept the U.S. request for eight orbital positions. It was agreed that both sides would work closely over the next few days in an attempt to narrow differences and move closer to an agreed plan. It was also agreed that the working groups would explore the possibilities for a compromise package on technical parameters. Both sides believe a better plan can evolve, and both sides are interested in reaching accord either before or early in the Conference. The United States needs to demonstrate that a plan can be developed which accommodates our needs and those of the industrialized countries, and which also accommodates the needs of smaller and less developed countries.

SECRET
DECL: OADR

SECRET

- 2 -

Ambassador Washburn noted that the Mexicans are aware of our discussions with the Canadians and are in accord with our approach. We have promised the Mexicans that we would get back to them as soon as we have reached a compromise with the Canadians. The Ambassador said that we have also worked closely with the Brazilians.

Mr. Schneider noted that there were only three weeks left before the Conference, and that we might want to consider a high-level approach to the Canadian Ambassador if the working groups do not produce the desired results within the next 8-10 days.

Ambassador Washburn reviewed the background to the RARC negotiations and the preparations through a Panel of Experts. Although agreement had been reached with the countries which participated in the Panel, the negotiations would not be easy. The United States must demonstrate that it has a plan which will accommodate the requirements of all Region 2 countries.

Political issues may arise; Cuba has already introduced the questions of spillover and prior consent. Ambassador Washburn speculated that Cuba may be isolated. Sovereignty over the geostationary arc is another thorny issue. Mr. Schaefer noted that French transmissions could cause the Canadians to raise the issue of cultural integrity.

Ambassador Washburn gave an overview of the Scope Paper, which presents the U.S. objectives. There was some discussion of sharing to lower the financial burden on the smaller countries, particularly in the Caribbean. Ambassador Dougan noted that the Scope Paper needed to be fleshed out with regard to fallback positions, as well as to reflect the results of further discussions with the Canadians.

The meeting concluded at 11:15 a.m.

SECRET

SIG MEETING

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION POLICY

May 26, 1983, 10:00 a.m.

Deputy Secretary's Conference Room 7219
Department of State

PARTICIPANTS

State

Under Secretary Schneider, Chairman
Ms. Diana Lady Dougan, T/CIP
Mr. Mel Blake, T/CIP
Mr. William Salmon, T
Ms. Sheila Lopez, S/S-S (Notetaker)

BIB

Mr. George Jacobi
Mr. Walter Roberts

CIA

[Redacted]

STAT

FCC

Mr. Abbott Washburn
Mr. Edward Jacobs
Mr. Konnie Schaefer

NASA

[Redacted]

STAT

NSA

NSC

Mr. Richard Beal

NTIA

Mr. Francis Urbany
Ms. Sue Stuebing
Mr. Dick Parlow

OSTP

Mr. John Marcum

USIA

Mr. Scott Thompson

USTR

Mr. Jonathan Aronson